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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/681,315 | 10/09/2003 | Steven W. Trovinger | 200206080 | 1860 |

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| EXAMINER |
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DESAI, HEMANT

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3721

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/681,315

Applicant(s)

TROVINGER, STEVEN W.

Examiner

Hemant M. Desai

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/9/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1- are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mandel et al. (5377965) in view of Colvin (5457904).

Mandel et al. disclose a sheet folding and trimming method and apparatus including a plurality of rollers (16, 26, fig. 1) for forming a fold in a sheet, and a trimming apparatus (48, fig. 1) including at least one cutting blade configured to trim the folded sheet.

Mandel et al., as mentioned above disclose all the claimed limitations, except for the trimming of folded sheet on three unfolded side. However, Colvin teaches to trim the folded sheet on three unfolded side (see fig. 5) to make all the three sides aligned. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to trim the folded sheet on three unfolded side as taught by Colvin in the sheet folding and trimming method and apparatus of Mandel et al. to make all the three sides aligned.

Regarding claim 2, Mandel et al. disclose that the folding apparatus is a buckle folding apparatus having a sheet holder (16, fig. 1) and the plurality of rollers (26, fig. 1)

are configured to form a folded sheet by advancing one portion of the sheet while holding another portion of the sheet with the sheet holder.

Regarding claims 3 and 4, Mandel et al. disclose that the plurality of rollers of the buckle folding apparatus include two advancing rollers (15, fig. 1) for delivering the sheet to the sheet holder (16) and two folding rollers (26) for forming the fold.

Regarding claim 5, Mandel et al. disclose that a transport system configured to transport sheets to the folding apparatus and to transport folded sheets from the folding apparatus to the trimming apparatus (48).

Regarding claim 6, Mandel et al. disclose that at least one cutting blade of the trimming apparatus is movable with respect to the transport system to cut sheets of different sizes.

Regarding claims 7 and 8, Mandel et al. disclose an assembling apparatus (30, fig. 11) for assembling a plurality of folded sheets into a booklet, the assembling apparatus including an opening roller (compiler 30) for opening the folded and trimmed sheets and an advancing apparatus for advancing a sheet into an opened sheet.

Regarding claim 9, Mandel et al. disclose that the folding apparatus is knifeless folding device.

Regarding claims 10 and 13, the modified trimming apparatus teaches that the sheet wise trimming apparatus performs trimming on first and second opposite edges of the folded sheet at a predetermined fixed location determined by the size of a booklet to be formed, and the trimming apparatus performs trimming on a third edge of the folded

sheet at a variable location determined on a sheet-by-sheet basis based on a size of the booklet and a location of the sheet in the booklet.

Regarding claim 11, Mandel et al. disclose that a printer (11, fig. 1) arranged to deliver printed sheets to the folding apparatus.

Regarding claim 12, the modified apparatus of Mandel et al. meets all the claimed limitations of claim 12.

Regarding claim 15, the modified method of Mandel et al. meets all the claimed limitations of claim 15.

Regarding claim 16, Mandel et al. disclose that the step of assembling includes opening the folded sheets and assembling the sheets in the form of a booklet.

Regarding claim 17, Mandel et al. disclose that the step of assembling includes stapling the booklet along the fold (see col. 8, lines 30-50).

Regarding claim 18, Mandel et al. disclose that the step of trimming includes trimming the sheets to different sizes depending on a location of the sheet in the final booklet.

Regarding claim 19, Mandel et al. disclose that the step of assembling includes stacking the folded sheets in the form of a book.

Regarding claim 20, Mandel et al. disclose that folding the sheet includes holding a portion of the sheet stationary while advancing another portion of the sheet with a plurality of rollers to form a buckle in the sheet.


Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hemant M. Desai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4458. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM-5:30 PM, Mon-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi I. Rada can be reached on (571) 272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Hemant M Desai
Examiner
Art Unit 3721

HMD